

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 SAJ-01 SAB-01 /063 W

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R 030933Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4242

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, XF

SUBJECT: FIRST SOVIET PRESS COMMENT ON THE RABAT SUMMIT

1. SUMMARY. PRAVDA COMMENTARY (NOVEMBER 2) BY
ME EDITOR PAVEL DEMCHENKO CONCLUDES THAT THE RESULTS OF THE
RABAT SUMMIT HAVE MADE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO
ARAB UNITY AND TO PROSPECTS FOR AN ME SETTLEMENT.
COMMENTARY CHARGES THAT ACCUSATIONS BY ISRAEL AND TEL
AVIV'S "IMPERIALIST BACKERS" THAT RABAT MAY HAVE WEAKENED
THE CHANCES FOR PEACE ARE PART OF AN EFFORT TO FORCE THEIR
OWN ORDER ON A SETTLEMENT IN THE ME. IZVESTIYA MONTHLY
INTERNATIONAL REVIEW (NOVEMBER 1) CHARGES THAT ISRAEL AND
HER "NATO BACKERS" ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBSTRUCTING
THE WORK OF THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE AND
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WELCOMES PLO-JORDANIAN COMPROMISE AT RABAT. END

SUMMARY.

2. DEMCHENKO SAYS THE RABAT CONFERENCE'S MAIN RESULT WAS THE DEVELOPMENT OF A UNIFIED ARAB POSITION ON THE EVE OF THE UNGA DEBATE ON PALESTINE AND THE ANTICIPATED REOPENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. AS THE CONFERENCE'S PRINCIPAL CONTRIBUTIONS, HE NOTES THAT JORDANIAN-PLO DIFFERENCES "WHICH HAD WEAKENED THE ARAB COUNTRIES' POSITION BEFORE ISRAEL" WERE BASICALLY RESOLVED, THAT HUSSEIN AND ARAFAT WILL MEET IN AMMAN, THAT AN AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ABOUT COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES AMONG THE CONFRONTATION STATES AND THE PLO, AND THAT A FUND WAS ESTABLISHED "TO AID THE VICTIMS OF AGGRESSION" (DEMCHENKO DOES NOT USE THE WORD DEFENSE).

3. ATTACKING RABIN FOR CHARGING THAT THE CONFERENCE "MAY HAVE UNDERMINED THE CHANCES FOR PEACE," DEMCHENKO ASSERTS THAT RABIN IS TALKING ABOUT PEACE ON TEL AVIV'S TERMS. THIS CONTINUES THE EFFORTS OF TEL AVIV "AND THE IMPERIALIST CIRCLES BEHIND ISRAEL (NO DOUBT A REFERENCE TO THE U.S.) TO IMPOSE ON THE ARABS WITH THE AID OF FORCE, THREATS, AND BLACKMAIL THEIR OWN ORDER IN THE ME." HOWEVER, DEMCHENKO CONCLUDES, THE CHANCES FOR THE SUCCESS OF SUCH A POLICY ARE DIMINISHING. FAVORABLE CONDITIONS NOW EXIST FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE'S WORK, AND THE SOVIET UNION STANDS FOR THE FACT "THAT THIS BE DONE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE."

4. IZVESTIYA NOVEMBER 1 REVIEW BY STURUA (APPARENTLY WRITTEN BEFORE THE RABAT SUMMIT ENDED) ALSO TAKES STRONG SLAP AT ISRAEL AND "THE NATO CIRCLES" BACKING TEL AVIV, CHARGING THAT THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FREEZING THE WORK OF THE MEPC AND FOR LEAVING THE UNSC RESOLUTIONS ON THE ME JUST ON PAPER. STURUA REITERATES SOVIET SUPPORT FOR THE EARLIEST RECONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE AND ASSERTS THAT THE RABAT SUMMIT--PARTICULARLY BY RESOLVING THE PLO-JORDANIAN PROBLEM--HAS MADE A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTRIBUTION TOWARD A MIDDLE EAST PEACE.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, SUMMIT MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOSCOW16744
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740315-0236
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741175/aaaac1wm.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <21 MAR 2003 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIRST SOVIET PRESS COMMENT ON THE RABAT SUMMIT
TAGS: PFOR, UR, XF, (DEMCHEMKO, PAVEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005